1754

COMIC SHOP NEWS™

SEVEN SWORDS

The Magnificent Seven

John Wick with swords?

That's how writer *Evan Daugherty* pitches ***Seven Swords #1*** (with art by *Riccardo Latina).* In this literary/historical crossover series, a weary and jaded D'Artagnan is drawn into a final conflict with the wicked Cardinal Richelieu, whose ruthless quest for power has led him to the supernatural. But the Last Musketeer can't defeat these infernal enemies alone. To save the world, he'll need to join forces with seven iconic swashbuckling heroes, including Don Juan, Captain Blood, and Cyrano de Bergerac, who must overcome their host of differences and work together if they have any hope of thwarting Richelieu's diabolical plans.

"My greatest passion as a screenwriter is telling old stories in new ways," Daugherty told ***The Hollywood Reporter***. "It's what I tried to do with ***Snow White and the Huntsman*** [which he also wrote]: take an iconic fairy tale and find some new way into it, updating and revising it for our modern era. That was the goal with ***Seven Swords*** as well."

Among other influences, Daugherty cites *Alan Moore & Kevin O'Neill's* ***League of Extraordinary Gentlemen,*** *Rob Reiner's* ***The Princess Bride,*** *Richard Lester's* ***Musketeer*** films, and *Errol Flynn's* ***Don Juan.***

"I desperately wanted to tell a story in this genre," says Daugherty, "and it felt like a mashup of some of the greatest swashbuckling heroes in literature would be a clever way to do it."

Seven Swords #1 is scheduled for June 16th release from AfterShock Comics. *Andy Clarke & Jose Villarubia* provide the art for the main cover, while *JG Jones* supplies the art for the issue's 1-for-15 incentive variant.

Coming Comics—AfterShock in June

The world is ending in ***Babyteeth #18*** (by *Donny Cates & Garry Brown).* Seems like the perfect time for a family reunion.

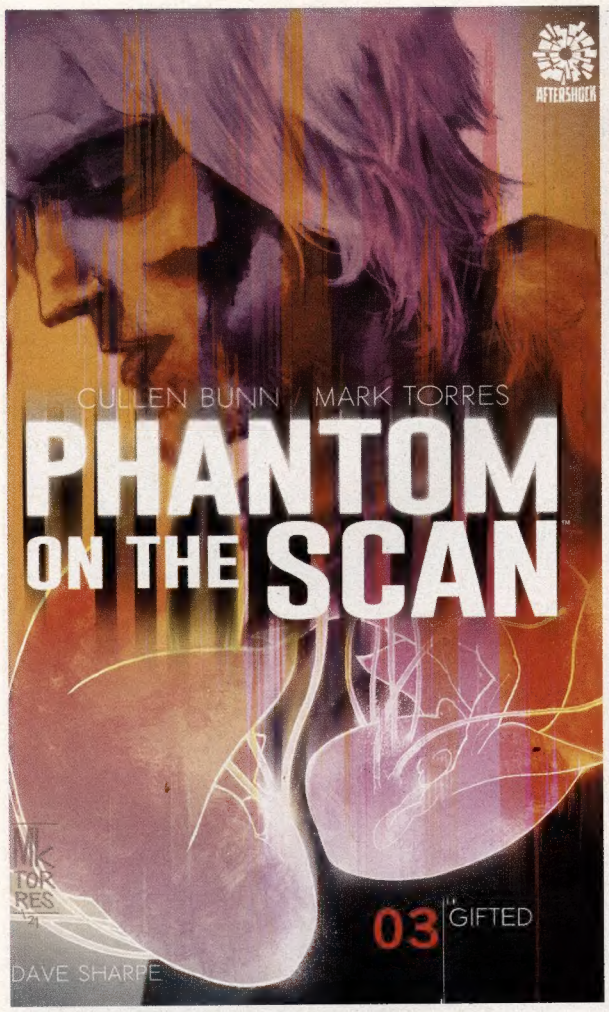
Sealed in a cave before the dawn of man, released by a crazed madman, Bunny Mask walks our world once more in ***Bunny Mask #1*** (by *Paul Tobin & Andrea Mutti).* But for what dark purpose does she use her unnatural powers? And what's her connection to Bee Foster, a young girl murdered by her father 14 years ago? In order to save his life—and his sanity—one man will have to discover the truth of what waits behind the mask.

Things heat up as the girls are separated and wind up in different dimensions in ***Girls of Dimension 13 #3*** (by *Graham Nolan & Bret Blevins).* Pitch fights for his life against Ditko! Abby and Cece, stuck in a dimension that seems upside down, meet the Abstractors, and Savannah and Nadira find Anna Nightlinger. But are they too late?

When Dan Collins wakes to finds his life hanging by a thread, he must use his astral projection to discover who tried to kill him in ***Out of Body #1*** (by *Peter Milligan & Inaki Miranda).* Who is the beautiful mystic who tries to help him? Why does August Fryne want Dan's soul—and what does it have to do with a demon who seems to be Dorian Gray? Find out in this weird, occult detective thriller about life, death—and whatever lies in between.

With the body count rising around them, a group of doomed psychics confront a telekinetic murderer who is venting his rage against anyone in his

Courtesy of your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!



path in ***Phantom of the Scan #3*** (by *Cullen Bunn & Mark Torres)*. Their mental gifts are both the key to their survival and the path to their own destruction, as they move ever closer to uncovering the awful secrets the Trellux Institute is protecting.

Thirty years ago, the Patron died, only for the United Nations to replace him with a perfect robotic duplicate. Now, the monster responsible for the Patron's death has returned, threatening to expose the Project Patron team. But with one of its own dead, is the team strong enough to fight on? Find out in ***Project Patron #3*** (by *Steve Orlando & Patrick Piazzalunga).*

Ru recalls the horrific truth behind her untimely death in ***Silver City #2*** (by *Olivia Cuartero-Briggs & Luca Merli)*. Meanwhile, a group discovery about Junie awakens Ru's sense of justice, sending them all on a dangerous mission, fraught with unknown peril, and unveiling some inexplicable new powers.

AfterShock collected editions include:

- ***Sympathy for No Devils TP,*** collecting the five-issue series.
- ***Kaiju Score TP,*** collecting ***Kaiju Score #s 1–4.***

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Coming Comics—Image in June

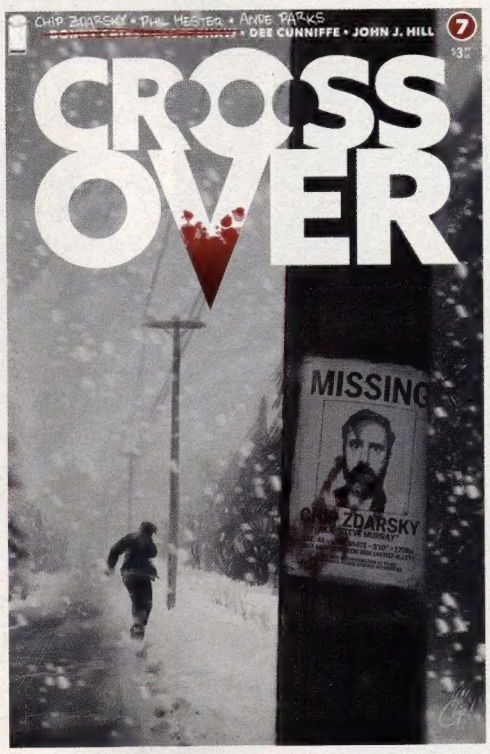
Fourteen years after its previous issue was published, *Erik Larsen's* ***Ant*** returns for ***Volume One's*** awe-inspiring conclusion in ***Ant #12***! Hannah Washington has spent years looking for answers, and finally her quest comes to its epic conclusion. Guest-starring the Dynamic Daredevil!

One last enemy remains before Mikey Rhodes' adventure can finally come to an end in ***Birthright #50*** (by *Joshua Williamson, Andrei Bressan, & Adriano Lucas),* the series finale.

The Sangerye family have faced many challenges over the years, but none as deadly as the evil they must now confront in ***Bitter Root #14*** (by *David F. Walker, Chuck Brown, & Sanford Greene).* With Dr Sylvester by their side, the Sangeryes prepare to make a final stand. But can Sylvester be trusted?

Frontier and Originator face off with Doctor Dracula in ***Commanders in Crisis #9*** (by *Steve Orlando, LA Thornhill, & Davide Tinto)* as the Extinction Society begins its final push to kick us all off the edge and into destruction and the Revenge Regiment strikes!

Shahidah El-Amin is many things: scholar, cartographer, astronomer, mathematician, scientist, explorer, adventurer, and—when need be—two-fisted fighter. Setting out from Baghdad's legendary House of Wisdom during the Islamic Golden Age, Shahi's quest brings her to 13th-century Britain, where the Welsh are whispered to possess the secret of eternal life. But Shahi's not the only one after it in ***Compass #1*** (by *Robert MacKenzie, Dave Walker, & Justin Greenwood).*



Chip Zdarsky steps in as special guest writer for ***Crossover*** #7 (with art by *Phil Hester, Ande Parks, Dee Cunniffe, & John J. Hill).* So why the writing change? You'll have to read the book to find out!

The crew explores the secret underwater facility in ***Deep Beyond #5*** (by *Mirka Andolfo, David Goy, & Andrea Broccardo),* but it seems there is still no trace of Pam. What's the mystery behind this place? How will they be able to find Pam? And what is that strange "structure" they came across?

Some fictions manifest in reality as dangerous, half-formed things. The Department of Truth relies on hunters to track down and contain these wild tulpas before they become too real. It's time for Cole Turner to see this side of the job firsthand. It's time for Cole Turner to join his first Bigfoot hunt in ***The Department of Truth #10*** (by *James Tynion IV & Martin Simmonds).*

The Scorched Earth Clan and the Order of the Flaming Fist face off one final time in the extra-length ***Fire Power #12*** (by *Robert Kirkman & Chris Samnee).* Owen Johnson has fully reentered the world he left behind, and from this point on—everything changes.

Geiger's tragic origins are revealed in ***Geiger #3*** (by *Geoff Johns, Gary Frank, & Brad Anderson),* from his time before the war to his fateful meeting with the doomed Dr Molotov. All secrets will be laid bare when the King of Las Vegas invades Geiger's compound.

Edison Hark comes face to face with a killer—and more suffering, lust, and soul than he'd ever imagined in Chinatown—in ***The Good Asian #2*** (by *Pornsak Pichetshote, Alexandre Tefenkgi, & Lee Loughridge).*

In ***HaHa #6*** (by *W. Maxwell Prince, Martin Morazzo, & Chris O'Halloran),* the worlds of ***HaHa*** and ***Ice Cream Man*** reveal themselves as one and the same in this story about the last days of Happy Hank.

With the help of his aunt Gladys, Juan learns how to control his superhuman abilities in ***Home #3*** (by *Julio Anta & Anna Wieszczyk).* Unfortunately, the news of his mother's deportation forces him to reckon with his future.

It's been three months since a haunted house walked through Santa Manos—and in ***Home Sick Pilots #6*** (by *Dan Watters & Caspar Wijngaard),* the US military would like a walking ghost-powered weapon of its very own, thank you very much.

Jim Lives: The Mystery of the Lead Singer of the Doors and the 27 Club OGN (by *Paulo Baron & Ernesto Carbonetti)* is the story of a man searching for his son—a correspondent for a popular American newspaper—who vanished into thin air after sending one last, enigmatic message: "Jim Morrison isn't dead. He's hiding out in Italy. I saw him with my own eyes." Come along with the creators of ***Paul Is Dead*** as they reveal the second chapter in their conspiracy trilogy: a new, fascinating vision of the most mysterious legend in the history of rock that envisions what happened "When the Music's Over."

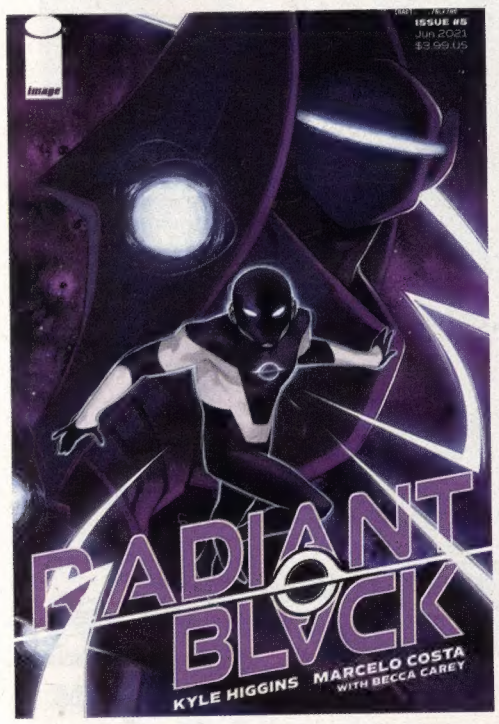
Comic book wise guys *Shaky Kane & Krent Able* serve up genre-busting mischief and masked mayhem in ***Kane & Able OGN***. Slip in and out of subconsciousness with the Astonishing Shield Bug! Surf the Fleshwave with Black Fur in "Who Fears the Deathroach?"! Journey into the sub-basement in the gasoline-tinged "Dustmites"! Ride into the Creepzone with Nightmare and Sleepy in the aptly named "Creepzone"!

Chloe and Hutch have gotten married and had more children. The superheroes are working in harmony with humanity and creating a perfect world. But all is not well in the Garden of Eden as the Sampson family gets ripped apart and the secrets of the mysterious island begin to be revealed in ***Jupiter's Legacy: Requiem #1*** (by *Mark Millar & Tommy Lee Edwards),* the perfect new entry point for customers to jump into the ***Jupiter's Legacy*** superhero universe in anticipation of the forthcoming Netflix adaptation!

The road runs out as Val reaches the fabled location of her promised sanctuary in ***Nocterra #4*** (by *Scott Snyder, Tony S. Daniel, & Tomeu Morey).* Will she find the haven she so desperately seeks, or will something far more terrifying be waiting for her?

The Kuthaal invade in ***Oblivion Song by Kirkman & DeFelici #31*** (by *Robert Kirkman & Lorenzo De Felici*), and Earth is not prepared! Los Angeles, Paris, and Hong Kong are experiencing three separate transference events! Nathan Cole may be the only person capable of standing up to the Kuthaal forces, but will he be enough?

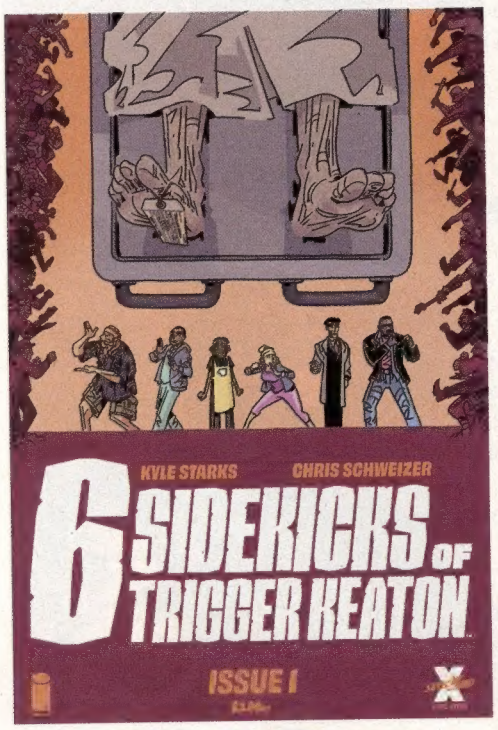
It's the '70s, and Andy stumbles straight out of battle to come face to face with the last person she ever expected to see in ***The Old Guard: Tales Through Time #3*** (by *Brian Bendis, Michael Avon Oeming, & Taki Soma)*! Then, *Dave Walker, Robert Mackenzie, & Justin Greenwood* task the team with an assassination on the night of the moon landing!



Radiant Red needs to be stopped before anyone else gets hurt. But after the events of last issue left Lockport—and the world—reeling, is Radiant Black up to the task? And will he be in this fight alone? Find out in ***Radiant Black #5*** (by *Kyle Higgins & Marcelo Costa).*

After a home invasion goes bad, the mysterious coin helps its new owners outrun the law in ***The Silver Coin #3*** (by *Ed Brisson & Michael Walsh).* But it's leading them down a path much darker.

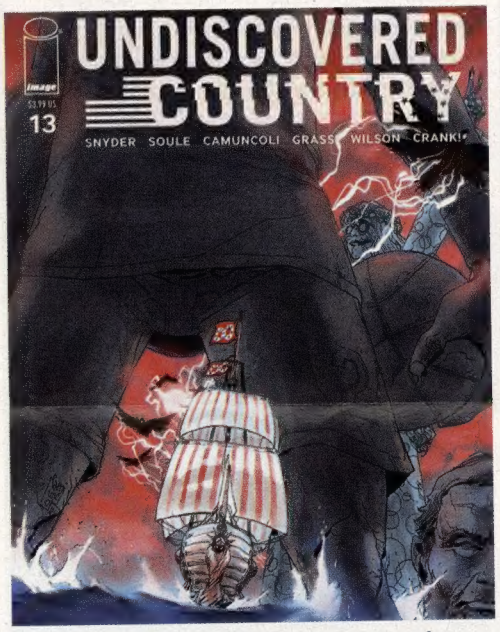
The world's most unlikable action star has been found dead, and his previous TV sidekicks are looking to solve the mystery in ***The 6 Sidekicks of Trigger Keaton #1*** (by *Kyle Starks & Chris Schweizer).* But how can you catch a murderer when almost everyone hated the victim? Now these sidekicks are going to learn what it means to be the stars of the show... that is, if any of them survives the Stuntman War!



Spawn #319 (by *Todd McFarlane & Carlo Barberi)* plants the "seed" that will grow into the new ***Spawn Universe #1.*** Then the extra-length ***Spawn Universe #1*** (by *Todd McFarlane, Jim Cheung, Stephen Segovia, & Marci Takara)* begins a storyline so huge that three new Spawn-related monthly titles will spill out from it, including a new ***Spawn*** title, ***Gunslinger Spawn,*** and a new team book. With this oneshot, the world of Spawn changes forever. New heroes. New villains, and, more important, new titles!

In ***That Texas Blood #7*** (by *Chris Condon & Jacob Phillips),* Joe Bob reminisces about one of his first cases: a haunting and bizarre evening that left a boy dead, a girl missing, and a cult on the loose—and introduced a mysterious man called Harlan Eversaul.

After barely escaping the Syndicate alive, Tatsuo must evade enemies old and new in ***Time Before Time #2*** (by *Declan Shalvey, Rory McConville, Joe Palmer, & Chris O'Halloran),* all the while trying not to kill his new time-traveling companion. Who is Nadia Wells, and what does she want with a time machine?

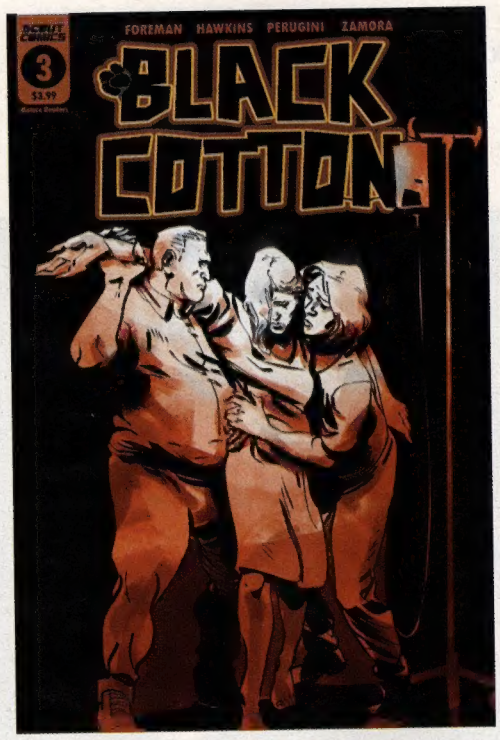


The journey through the transformed United States continues in ***Undiscovered Country #13*** (by *Scott Snyder, Charles Soule, Giuseppe Camuncoli, Leonardo Marcello Grassi, & Matt Wilson)* as our group of explorers ventures into the third Zone: Possibility, a region built on the endlessly evolving landscape of American creativity, from folklore to VR.

Vinyl #1 (by *Doug Wagner, Daniel Hillyard, & Dave Stewart)* kicks off an unsettling tale of psychopaths, sweet love, and a serial killer named Walter. When Walter's best friend, the FBI agent charged with his capture, is kidnapped by a death cult of all-female sunflower farmers, Walter finds himself deep within an underground labyrinth filled with secrets and monsters... but are their monsters more horrific than his?

Image collected editions include:

- ***Excellence Volume 1: Kill the Past TP,*** collecting ***Excellence #s 1–6.***
- ***Ice Cream Man Volume 6: Just Desserts TP,*** collecting ***Ice Cream Man #s 21–24.***
- ***Nomen Omen Volume 3: As the World Falls Down TP,*** collecting ***Nomen Omen #s 11–15.***
- ***Seven to Eternity Volume 4: The Springs of Zhal TP,*** collecting ***Seven to Eternity #s 14–17.***
- ***Sunstone Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***Sunstone TP Vols 4 & 5.***



Coming Comics—Scout in June

The Cotton family wars against itself in ***Black Cotton #3*** (by *Patrick Foreman & Brian Hawkins)* after Zion goes to see Elizabeth in the hospital. Also, a business crisis arises that may present an even bigger and more deadly problem than the "Officer Involved" shooting and the public backlash from it.

The demons tear their way through Star-Mart in ***Black Friday #3*** (by *Jon Clark & Travis Williamson),* devouring everything in their path. Store clerk Javier has a new plan to stop them, but how can anyone survive the day that puts them all in the black?

After defeating the western wind mage, Elodie and Sajen have a new mission in ***By the Horns #3*** (by *Markisan Naso & Jason Muhr).* But to track down the other sorcerers, they'll need to put their trust in the floating eyeball named Evelyn to guide them across the continent. Plus, Sajen has his work cut out for him if he wants to prevent Elodie from killing their unicorn travel companions, Zoso and Rigby.

Horny robots! Super evolved orangutan bosses! Joyriders from the 26th century! Nothing fazes Philip Blank, top agent for the sci-fi spy organization known as WORLDE! But lately, Philip's been wondering if there isn't more to life than saving the world through creative violence. What is Philip hiding from WORLDE, and how far will he go to keep it hidden? Find out in the beautifully bizarre ***Chaos Agent #1*** (by *Deniz Camp & Filya Bratukhin).*

The villagers talk about the crazy old hermit, Lontar, who lives in the caves. They say he stands guard against dragons that will never come, creatures that exist only in his mind. Young Claire is the only one who believes him and has befriended the old outcast. She doesn't realize that he has been training her to fight and telling her the ancient stories for a very special reason. Lontar wants Claire to take his place and save the ungrateful people who mock them both. Soon their laughter will be replaced with cries for help, and one brave girl, armed with only her fighting staff, will be the villagers' last hope in ***Claire and the Dragons #1,*** an all-ages book from Scout's Scoot! imprint.

In ***Midnight Western Theater #2*** (by *Louis Southard & David Han),* Ortensia Thomas and her right hand man, Alexander Wortham, have journeyed into the middle of nowhere for reasons unknown. The only form of civilization for miles is a lonely and peculiar church, but all is not as it seems! Will this house of God be their salvation or their doom?

Bigfoot! El Chupacabra! The Mothman! Ghosts! The world may be growing smaller every day, but there are dark and terrible things still out there in the woods, shadowy corners full of mystery and dread. Who else are you going to send out to investigate? The Perhapanauts, who are back in action (this time against the Flatwoods Monster) in ***Perhapanauts: Second Chances #1*** (by *Todd Dezago & Craig Rousseau).*

Deep in the underground bioweapons base, a team of scientists desperately tries to discover the origin of the virus ravaging the world in ***Rabid World #2*** (by *Todd Cinani & Oleg Okunev).*

Angel gets some new tech—and even better, a break—in ***Stake #4*** (by *David Byrne & Francesca Fantini)*... but will it pan out? As another murder, which appears to be connected to the case they're already working, lands at Angel and Jessamy's feet, Barnard summons Angel to his nightclub for a much-needed night out.

Tales Told in Techni-Horror #1 (by *Kiyarn Taghan & Christian Dibari)* contains five short stories from the dark minds that brought you ***Provenance of Madness.***

Scout collected editions include:

- ***Long Lost Prestige Edition*** (by *Matthew Erman & Lisa Sterle*), collecting the first two issues of the critically acclaimed comic series, ***Long Lost***, and featuring a new cover from *Sweeney Boo.*
- ***Murder Hobo Big Floppy Edition,*** collecting ***Murder Hobo Broken, Beaten and Buggered*** and ***All Inn at the Dragon's Shaft.***
- ***Yasmeen TP,*** collecting the acclaimed six-issue series.

BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH'S MONSTERS HC

Barry Windsor-Smith (W/A)
(Fantagraphics NOV201315 $39.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Part family drama, part espionage thriller, part metaphysical journey, Monsters is an intimate portrait of individuals struggling to reclaim their lives and an epic odyssey across two generations of American history.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

This is the first major new work from *Barry Windsor-Smith* in this century, and it is his longest and most ambitious work to date. When a legend returns to the artform he helped to revitalize 50 years earlier, you should care very much!

BATMAN & SCOOBY-DOO MYSTERIES #1 (OF 12)

Ivan Cohen (W); Dario Brizuela (A)
(DC 0221DC014 $2.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

When Batman discovers his original purple gloves have gone missing, Velma, Shaggy, and Scooby-Doo travel back in time to Batman's Year One era to solve the case!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Scooby-Doo Team-Up was one of the most fun DC series of the past 10 years, so we'll take any opportunity to see the Dark Knight Detective join forces with Mystery Inc!

CHALLENGE OF THE SUPER SONS #1 (OF 7)

Peter J. Tomasi (w); Max Raynor (A)
(DC 0221DC015 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Picking up where the sensational ***Adventures of the Super Sons*** left off, the sons of Batman and Superman are back in the spotlight and ready to give evil a good spanking. But are Robin and Superboy in over their heads this time? A mysterious woman from beyond time has appeared to the DCU's favorite sons, and her arrival heralds certain doom to come! In fact, it seems she's sent the boys on a bogus journey that they've already... returned from? What did the boys learn when they were whisked away? And why on Earth do they have to save the Flash from instant death?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

The boys are back in town! Forget those angsty-complex Jonathan and Damian characters you see in most DC books—*Peter Tomasi* delivers the Super Sons you know and love in the pages of this limited series!

DOCTOR WHO: MISSY #1

Jody Houser (W); Roberta Ingranata (A)
(Titan FEB211536 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Missy's up to her old tricks, but this time she's not alone! How will the Doctor survive this latest maniacal plot in this special story celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Master? And that's not good news for either the Third or the Twelfth Doctor!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

A half-century of Master-and-Missy Malevolence is "celebrated" in this limited series that delivers an extra helping of time lords!

GEIGER #1

Geoff Johns (W); Gary Frank (A)
(Image FEB210009 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

In the years since a nuclear war ravaged the planet, desperate outlaws battle for survival in a world of radioactive chaos. Out past the poisoned wasteland lives a man even the Nightcrawlers and Organ People fear. Some name him Joe Glow; others call him the Meltdown Man. But his name is... Geiger.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

The creative masterminds of ***Doomsday Clock***, the most compelling DC series of the century thus far, reunite for their first-ever creator-owned Image series.

GODZILLA: MONSTERS & PROTECTORS #1

Erik Burnham (W); Dan Schoening (A)
(IDW FEB210451 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

When a coldly single-minded businessman uses an untested element to create clean energy for a profit, he inadvertently awakens the beast from the deep! Sensing the harm the new energy poses to the planet, Godzilla attacks the heart of the problem: humankind! It will be up to three intrepid middle-school students—with a little magic help from Infant Island—to show Godzilla that not all humans are bad... and that there is still hope for Planet Earth. Reuniting the blockbuster creative team of writer *Erik Burnham*, artist *Dan Schoening*, and colorist *Luis Antonio Delgado* ***(Ghostbusters)***, *Godzilla: Monsters & Protectors* promises to romp and stomp fans—old and new—of the greatest kaiju ever like never before!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Godzilla the kaiju monster is cast in a new role as humanity's guardian in this new series that harkens back to classic Toho Godzilla!

GREEN LANTERN #1

Geoffrey Thorne (W); Dexter Soy (A)
(DC 0221DC001 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

The newly formed United Planets and the Guardians of the Universe hold an intergalactic summit to decide who can best serve and protect the cosmos from danger. With the majority of Green Lanterns called back to Oa, John Stewart arrives alongside Teen Lantern Keli Quintela, whose gauntlet could be one of the most powerful and unstable weapons in the universe. With the landscape of the entire universe in flux, is this the end of the Green Lantern Corps... or a new beginning?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

A new creative team, a new approach, and a new focus make this ***Green Lantern*** a book worth checking out.

CSN TOP CO

HOME #1 (OF 5)

Julio Anta (W); Anna Wieszczyk (A)
(Image FEB210032 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

When a young boy is torn away from his mother while seeking asylum at the US border, something begins to change in him—and it isn't just the trauma, anxiety, and guilt you'd expect. He doesn't know it yet, but it's the onset of superhuman abilities that will change his life forever.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

This five-issue limited series blends superhero adventure with a powerful drama focusing on migrant issues in today's world.

JULES VERNE'S LIGHTHOUSE #1 (OF 5)

David Hine (W); Brian Haberlin (A)
(Image FEB210038 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

At the edge of the galaxy is the giant supercomputer known as the Lighthouse, the only brain powerful enough to navigate ships through a sargasso of naturally occurring wormholes. Three humans, one alien, and a nanny bot have manned the remote station for years in relative peace until the arrival of Captain Kongre and his band of cutthroat pirates threatens the future of civilization... and reveals that each member of the Lighthouse crew has been hiding a shocking secret.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Jules Verne's tales of science fiction adventure are the inspiration for this series from the creators of ***The Marked*** and ***Sonata.***

MICS: APRIL

MAGIC #1

Jed MacKay (W); Ig Guara (A)

(Boom! FEB210846 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Across the vast Multiverse, those gifted with a "spark" can tap into the raw power of Magic and travel across realms—for they are Planeswalkers. When coordinated assassination attempts on Guildmasters Ral Zarek, Vraska, and Kaya rock the city of Ravnica and leave Jace Belleren's life hanging in the balance, a fuse is lit that threatens not just these three Guilds, but the entire plane of Ravnica. Now these three must covertly infiltrate the wild plane of Zendikar and form a tenuous alliance to uncover why the targets of the assassins have all been Planeswalkers... which will lead them straight to one of the most enigmatic characters in Magic history!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Jed MacKay & Ig Guara bring the concepts of the mega-hit ***Magic: The Gathering*** CCG to comics—and they're packing in everything that makes *Magic* fun!

MANY DEATHS OF LAILA STARR #1 (OF 5)

Ram V (W); Filipe Andrade (A)

(Boom! FEB210841 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

With humanity on the verge of discovering immortality, the avatar of Death is fired and relegated to the world below to live out her now-finite days in the body of 20-something Laila Starr in Mumbai. Struggling with her new mortality, Laila has found a way to be situated in the time and place where the creator of immortality will be born... but will Laila take her chance to permanently reverse the course of (future) history, or does a more shocking fate await her?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Death... out of a job? Now *that's* a killer concept—and it should attract plenty of readers to this new series by *Ram V & Filipe Andrade.*

THE MARVELS #1

Kurt Busiek (W); Yildiray Cinar (A)

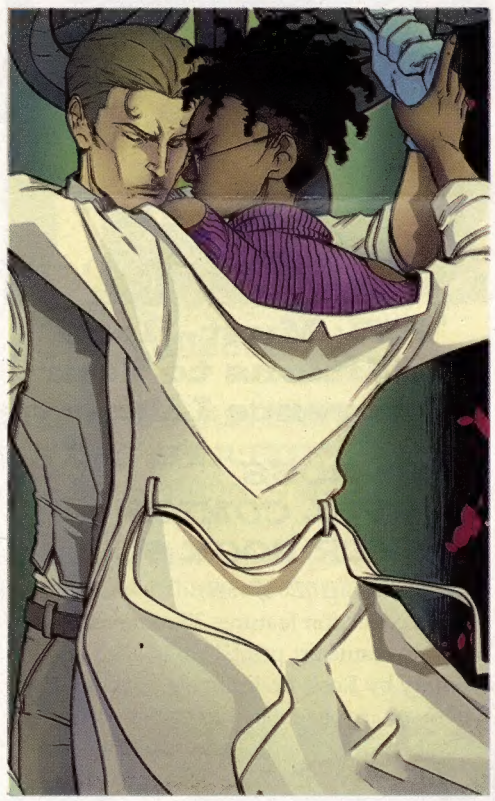
(Marvel MAR200959 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

An invasion from orbit, a picnic in Prospect Park, a superhero sightseeing in Manhattan, the All-Winners Squad in 1947, Reed Richards during his time in military intelligence, cosmic beings beyond space and time—it's all in here, and so much more! Captain America, Spider-Man, the Punisher, the Human Torch, Storm, the Black Cat, the Golden Age Vision, Aero, Iron Man, and Thor all make appearances in this series, along with two brand-new characters. Plus: Who (or what) is Kshoom?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Kurt Busiek, the man who gave us ***Marvels,*** has the entire Marvel Universe as his playground in this far-reaching series that will range from the street-level to the cosmic, from the personal to the globe-spanning. In other words, *Kurt Busiek* is getting to do what he does best!



MODERN FRANKENSTEIN #1

Paul Cornell (W); Emma Vieceli (A)

(Heavy Metal FEB211341 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Elizabeth Kleve is a brilliant young medical student, attracted to the waspish, charismatic surgeon James Frankenstein. He wants to further medical science... by any means necessary. So how far is Elizabeth prepared to go?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Paul Cornell & Emma Vieceli show that the tale of Frankenstein doesn't need gothic trappings to dress up its creepy horror!

MY LITTLE PONY/ TRANSFORMERS II #1 (OF 4)

James Asmus (W); Jack Lawrence (A)

(IDW FEB210437 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

While using a modified Space Bridge to bring magic to Cybertron, the Decepticons end up unleashing a more powerful evil from Equestria than they ever could've imagined—so it looks like the only way out of this mess is to team up! Get ready for more ponies, more bots, and more magical mayhem as two worlds collide in the return of this hit crossover event!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

If you liked the first series (and judging from sales, a *lot* of you did!), then you're going to love the dial-it-up-to-11 sequel!

OLD GUARD: TALES THROUGH TIME #1 (OF 6)

Greg Rucka & Andrew Wheeler (W); Leandro Fernandez & Jacopo Campagni (A)

(Image FEB210016 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Andromache the Scythian—a warrior over 6,000 years old who has fought more battles than she cares to remember—has kept one constant companion through her long lifetime of combat... her labrys. Now her battle axe gets a moment in the spotlight. And in the second tale, Nicolo "Nicky"' di Genova and Yusuf "Joe" al-Kaysani (lovers since they tried to kill each other in the First Crusade) spend an evening at Berlin's famed Eldorado nightclub in the twilight era of 1932, sharing drinks with drag queens and fistfighting Nazis.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

You've seen 'em on Netflix, and now the heroes of ***The Old Guard*** return to their original home at Image Comics for this new series.

PHANTOM ON SCAN #1

Cullen Bunn (W); Mark Torres (A)

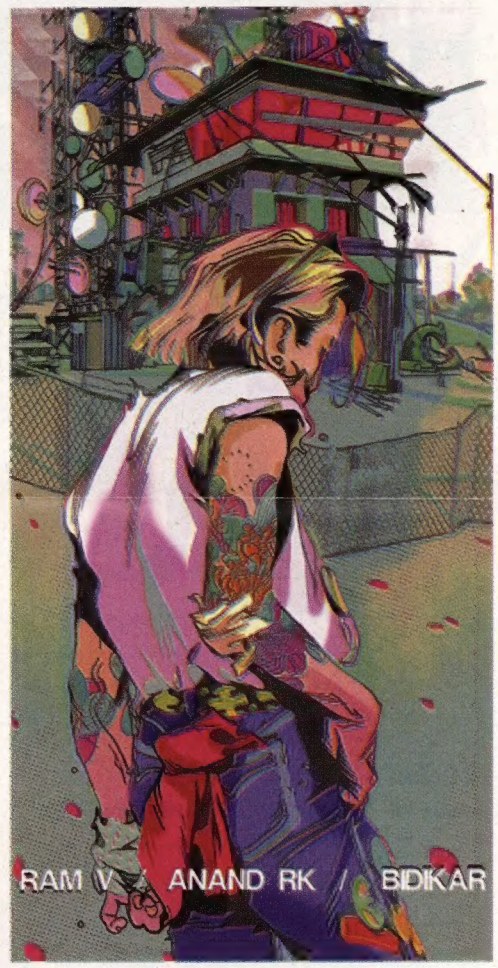
(AfterShock FEB210979 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Twenty years ago, a comet fell to Earth. Since that night, Matthew has been haunted by a spirit that gives him incredible psychic abilities. But these abilities come at a price... and payment is due. Every time Matthew uses his gifts, he draws closer to death, and other psychics—all of whom gained their powers on the night the comet fell—are dying in the most horrible of ways. To save himself, Matthew gathers a group of psychics to solve the mystery of their powers before it's too late.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Cullen Bunn, who earned his horror credentials with ***Harrow County,*** is back with a splatterpunk horror-suspense series that tosses in a dash a mystery for good measure.



RADIO APOCALYPSE #1

Ram V (W); Anand Radhakrishnan (A)

(Vault FEB211600 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Long after the rock out of space struck the world and turned it all to dust, in Bakerstown stands the last radio station on the planet: Radio Apocalypse, broadcasting into the unknown, a beacon in the dark for those who wander the lost places. Now change is coming to Bakerstown. Among the refugees flocking into an already precarious settlement is an orphan boy, Rion, who will twine his fate with the Radio Station.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

"This is the soundtrack to the end of the world" is Vault's punchline for this new series by star storyteller *Ram V,* and now we want to hear how it plays out...

RESISTANCE: UPRISING #1

J. Michael Straczynski (W); CP Smith (A)
(AWA FEB211132 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

In the wake of the assassination of their leader, the Resistance are in disarray, disconnected from each other and hunted by authorities around the world—including an army of "reborns" recruited by the American government. To avert decimation at the hands of a fascistic government crackdown, the Resistance must discover the ace up their sleeve... and then the key to unlocking it.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

J. Michael Straczynski returns to the world of ***The Resistance*** with a new limited series that'll be irresistible to anyone who enjoyed his earlier ***Resistance*** tales.

ROBIN #1

Joshua Williamson (W); Gleb Melnikov (A)
(DC 0221DC004 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

After learning of the deadly League of Lazarus tournament, Damian Wayne has a new mission: winning the tournament and proving he is the greatest fighter in the DC Universe! But first he must find the secret island where it's all going down!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Damian Wayne finally graduates from supporting role to star status in this new series—and it's about time!

SHADOWMAN (2020) #1

Cullen Bunn (W); Jon Davis-Hunt (A)
(Valiant FEB211590 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Jack Boniface is Shadowman, a powerful protector who keeps humanity safe from the demons that claw at the fabric of our reality. The forces of darkness are awakening, and they are hungry for life. Will Shadowman be able to save us all, or will the darkness devour the world as we know it?

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

With two series on this month's Hot Picks, it's obvious *Cullen Bunn* has become the go-to guy for horror-suspense—with good reason!

SPIDER-MAN: SPIDER'S SHADOW #1 (OF 4)

Chip Zdarsky (W); Pasqual Ferry (A)
(Marvel FEB210549 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Peter Parker once put on an alien suit that nearly destroyed his life—but what if he'd never taken it off? Haunted by terrible nightmares and exhausted by an endless barrage of bad guys, Peter can't seem to catch a break these days. So when the Hobgoblin attacks, he finds a hero at the end of his rope... and vulnerable to new dark impulses. Spider-Man is about to change his rules—but is it truly Peter who is in charge? Creative powerhouses *Chip Zdarsky, Pasqual Ferry, & Matt Hollingsworth* bring you a terrifying tale of a Peter Parker possessed and on the edge!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Chip Zdarsky, writer of the greatest Spider-Man ***What If?*** series ever in ***Spider-Man: Life Story,*** returns to the ***What If?*** well with this tale exploring how things might have changed if Peter Parker had accepted the symbiote.

UNIKORN #1

Don Handfield (W); Rafael Loureiro (A)
(Scout FEB211502 $3.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Mae Everhart inherits an old horse from her long lost mother, only to discover a strange nub on the horse's forehead hidden beneath a fly bonnet. Searching for answers, Mae explores her mom's abandoned veterinary office and finds a secret book her mother hid just for her. Its title? Unikorn Guide!

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

At last, well-crafted all-ages comics from a publisher who recognizes that "all ages" should appeal to children, teens, and adults!

WAY OF X #1

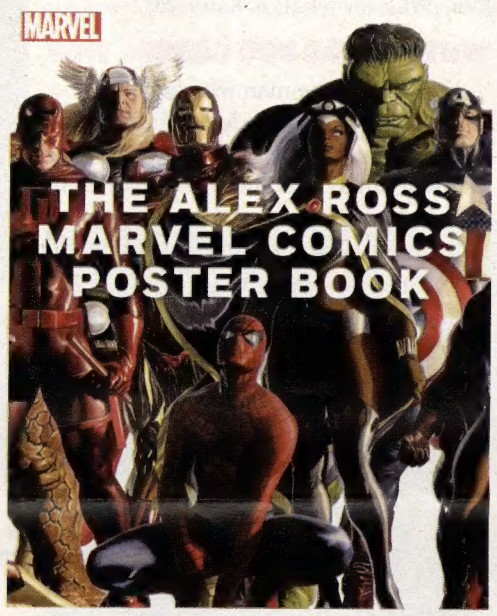
Si Spurrier (W); Bob Quinn (A)
(Marvel FEB210518 $4.99)

WHAT'S THE SCOOP?

Mutantkind has built a new Eden... but there are serpents in this garden. Some mutants struggle to fit in. Some mutants turn to violence and death. And the children whisper of the Patchwork Man, singing in their hearts... Only one mutant senses the looming shadows. Ensnared by questions of death, law, and love, only Nightcrawler can fight for the soul of Krakoa. Only he—and the curious crew he assembles—can help mutants defeat their inner darkness and find a new way to live.

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

Faith, science, culture, love, law... they're all in this series that explores both the physical and the spiritual side of Marvel's mutantverse.



FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

ALEX ROSS MARVEL COMICS POSTER BOOK SC

(Abrams JAN211027 $24.99)

This collection features 35 removeable, ready-to-frame art prints, along with commentary by Ross, preliminary sketches, and a bonus four-page gatefold of the portraits assembled into a mural that was commissioned for Marvel's New York City offices.

ALTER EGO #169

(TwoMorrows JAN211612 $9.95)

Alter Ego shines its spotlight on Groovy *Gary Friedrich,* co-creator of Marvel's Ghost Rider and one of the first new writers to join Marvel in the Silver Age Second Wave—and the interview is conducted by none other than *Roy Thomas,* Friedrich's longtime colleague and friend and the man who knows all the right questions to ask!

HOW TO DRAW DC SC

(Thunder Bay FEB211572 $19.99)

Learn how to draw your favorite heroes and villains from the DC Universe with this beginner-friendly kit that includes step-by-step instructions and a sketch pad.

OVERSTREET GUIDE TO GRADING COMICS 6TH ED HC

(Gemstone JAN211365 $34.95)

Nothing influences the value of a comic more than condition, and determining just what condition a book is in can be challenging. This photo guide, featuring more than 200 images, makes it easy to know what to look for and how to grade—and it also includes articles on storage, preservation, and restoration; a look at the independent, third-party grading companies; and much more.

Collected Cool: April's Best Reprint Editions

ASTERIX OMNIBUS PAPERCUTZ ED TP VOL 4

(PaperCutz FEB211448 $14.99)

Asterix and Obelix join the Roman Legion and venture to North Africa, outsmart Caesar and his men, and head to Greece to take part in the Olympic games in this collection of three more classic tales by *Rene Goscinny & Albert Uderzo.*

DARK NIGHTS: DEATH METAL DELUXE EDITION HC

(DC DEC207084 $29.99)

When the Earth is enveloped by the Dark Multiverse, the Justice League is at the mercy of the Batman Who Laughs in this collection of ***Dark Nights: Death Metal #s 1–7.***

DARK NIGHTS: DEATH METAL—THE DARKEST KNIGHT TP

(DC 0121DC083 $19.99)

Once you've read the core series, you'll want to experience the tie-ins—and that's just what you'll find in this collection of ***Dark Nights: Death Metal Legends of the Dark Knights #1, Dark Nights: Death Metal Speed Metal #1, Dark Nights: Death Metal Trinity Crisis #1, Dark Nights: Death Metal Multiverse's End #1,*** and ***Dark Nights: Death Metal Guidebook #1.***

MARVEL FEATURE
PRESENTS
THE
DEFENDERS
THIS IS IT! THE AWESOME ORIGIN OF THE DEFENDERS THE MOST FABULOUS FIGHTING-TEAM OF ALL!
STILL ANOTHER ALL-NEW BLOCKBUSTER! THE RETURN OF DR. STRANGE!

DEFENDERS OMNIBUS HC VOL 1

(Marvel OCT200685 $100.00)

Witness the earliest adventures (and pre-team crossover meetings) of the Defenders in this hefty compendium that collects ***Sub-Mariner #s 34–35, Marvel Feature #s 1–3, Defenders #s 1–19, Giant-Size Defenders #s 1–2,*** and ***Avengers #s 115–118.***

EC ARCHIVES SHOCK ILLUSTRATED HC

(Dark Horse DEC200280 $49.99)

Presenting the complete run of ***Shock Illustrated,*** an innovative "Picto-Fiction" magazine containing illustrated prose stories of switch parties, thrill killers, and more of society's dark underbelly—including the lost fourth issue, with pencils from *Frank Frazetta*!

NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER EPIC COLLECTION TP: ENTER THE SUB-MARINER

(Marvel JAN210744 $39.99)

Marvel's first superhero makes his Silver Age return in this collection of ***Fantastic Four (1961) #s 4, 6, 9, 14, 27, 33, & Annual #1; Avengers (1963) #s 3–4; X-Men (1963) #6, Daredevil (1964) #7,*** and tales from ***Strange Tales #s 107 & 125*** and ***Tales To Astonish #s 70–76.***

NEW GODS BOOK ONE: BLOODLINES TP

(DC 0121DC099 $34.99)

Mark Evanier, former assistant to New Gods creator *Jack Kirby,* teamed with artist *Paris Cullins* to revive Orion, Darkseid, Metron, Kalibak, and more in this collection of key late-'80s stories from ***New Gods #s 1–14.***

SHE'S JOSIE TP

(Archie FEB211056 $10.99)

Before she was a part of Josie & the Pussycats, she was just Josie! See how this world-famous rock star started out in this chronological collection of the classic 1960s series!

SUPERMAN'S
GREATEST TEAM-UPS
BUT CAN EVEN THE GALAXY'S TWO GREATEST SUPER-STARS HOPE TO SURVIVE AGAINST THE POWER OF VILLAINY'S MOST TERRIBLE WEAPON...
WARWORLD!

SUPERMAN'S GREATEST TEAM-UPS HC

(DC 0121DC103 $49.99)

The greatest Superman team-up tales from the pre-***Crisis on Infinite Earths*** era of the late 1970s and 1980s are featured in this collection of tales from ***DC Comics Presents #s 5, 9–10, 12, 14, 19, 28, 30, 35, 38–39, 45, 50, 58, 63, 67, 71, & 97.***

Hot Commodities: April's Best Merchandising & Collectibles

MARVEL ANIMATED THING STATUE

(Diamond Select DEC202079 $49.99)

Based on the variant cover artwork of *Skottie Young,* this 4" tall sculpture by *Paul Harding* shows Thing running into the fray.

MARVEL COMIC IRON MAN BUST

(Diamond Select DEC202077 $69.99)

Iron Man flexes his technological might in this all-new 6" tall bust designed by *Nelson Asencio* and sculpted by *Juan Pitluk.*

MARVEL LEGENDS IN 3D DR DOOM 1/2 SCALE BUST

(Diamond Select DEC202073 $175.00)

Behold the magnificent visage of Doom! Victor Von Doom, ruler of Latveria, in his striking half-sized 10" tall bust designed by *Joe Allard* and sculpted by *Rocco Tartamella.*

MARVEL PREMIER COLLECTION SABRE-TOOTH STATUE

(Diamond Select DEC202076 $199.99)

The claws are out in this 10" tall statue of Wolverine foe Sabretooth designed by *Uriel Caton* and sculpted by *Alejandro Pereira.*

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--by WARD BATTY AND CHARLES WILLIAMS
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